

That of Any Other Paper, and Its Total Circulation is the Largest in Connecticut in Proportion to the City's Population

## Mrs. Wakefield Called to Testify

IN EFFORT TO CONTROVERT  
TESTIMONY OF CORONER.

## BROKE DOWN AND CRIED

**Jury Was Excused During Time the  
Accused Woman Was On the Stand  
—Her Story Differs from Coroner's.**

New Haven, Conn., July 12.—Mrs. Bessie J. Wakefield, who is being tried in the superior court here for the murder of her husband, William C. Wakefield, was called to the stand unexpectedly this afternoon by the counsel, J. F. Devine, in an effort to controvert testimony given by Coroner Eli Mix to the effect that statements made by the woman to him immediately preceding and following her arrest, relative to the death of her husband, were made voluntarily and without inducement.

This action followed long arguments by counsel as to the admissibility of the coroner's testimony, counsel for the accused contending that it was inadvisable to show that the statements of Mrs. Wakefield's statements were not made without undue influence. The testimony should be excluded. Judge Joel H. Reed agreed that this was law, and then Mrs. Wakefield was called. The jury had been excused when the arguments were made and during the time Mrs. Wakefield was testifying.

**Jury Excused.**

The coroner had previously told of the circumstances under which he had questioned Mrs. Wakefield at Bristol.

at police headquarters at New Haven and at his office here. The coroner said he had not held out any inducements to the woman and did not put her under oath. Counsel for Mrs. Wakefield interposed objection to the testimony and the jury was excused while the lawyers argued the matter.

Mr. Wakefield was then called to the stand. In answer to questions by Mr. Devine, she said that when she was taken to the coroner's office he had slapped her on the back and said as he began to question her:

"You don't want to get mixed up in this. Tell the truth and you will be able to go back to your children, in a couple of days."

During her recital Mrs. Wakefield broke down and sobbed.

**Coroner Says He Held Out No Inducements.**

In testimony given later the coroner denied that he had slapped Mrs. Wakefield on the back and reiterated

Mr. Devine, cross examining the coroner, asked:

"Now, didn't you say 'Come, open up'?"

"I don't think I did," replied the coroner.

"Didn't you say 'Now, come tell it'?"

"I think I did."

Coroner mix had reference to his notes. He characterized the proceedings at Bristol as an "inquiry" rather than a coroner's inquest, with witnesses under subpoena. The coroner said he told Mrs. Wakefield that he was the coroner of New Haven county and had come to see if she could iden-

The words "Come, tell it," Judge Reed said, could not be called a command, more than an entreaty. The

court asked T. F. Devine to call to his attention anything in his notes with reference to the coroner holding out "fears or hopes" to Mrs. Wakefield to induce a statement, and James T. Mather, prosecuting attorney of Bristol, was called. He testified to telling Chief of Police Belden of Bristol that

Mrs. Wakefield had come to him and informed him of the disappearance of her husband. He also told of Mrs. Wakefield being questioned at Bristol and of her identification of the clothing found on the body of Wakefield. According to his testimony, Coroner

"Do you remember the coroner telling the stenographer to stop, that she

Adjourment was taken at this point  
until tomorrow.

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STATE CONFERENCE OF

**PROGRESSIVE LEADERS**  
Will Be Held in New York City on  
August 5.  
New York, July 22.—The state conference of progressive party leaders to

select delegates to the constitutional convention and discuss candidates for the state election will be held in New York city Aug. 5. In making this announcement today the progressive state committee said that the place for holding the meeting had been changed to New York because Theodore Roosevelt

wished to attend the meeting and make an address. The conference probably will select a committee to draw up a state platform.

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**\$300,000 IN GOLD BULLION**

**BROUGHT FROM NOME**  
**Largest Consignment Received from  
 the North This Year.**  
 Seattle, Wash., July 22.—Eight hun-  
 dred thousand dollars in gold bullion,  
 the largest consignment

the largest consignment received from the north this year, was brought from Nome, Alaska, by the steamship Victoria, which arrived yesterday. The Victoria also had \$75,000 worth of furs.

**Blamed for Death of His Wife.**  
 Lowell Moss, who was charged with the death of his wife, was found guilty of the crime by a jury in the federal court here today.

Blais was blamed for the death of his wife, Celenia Blais, in the report of the inquest today. The woman was found dead at her home early on the morning of June 27 after Blais had told the police that he thought he had killed her. Blais will be examined as to his

**Standard Oil Man Left \$49,000,000.**  
New York, July 22.—Henry H. Rogers, Standard Oil millionaire, left an estate of \$49,000,000 in New York state and D. Orden Mills left \$35,526,781, and

According to official appraisals dated 10 day, \_\_\_\_\_